

LIST OF BIRDS OF
CLARENDON COUNTY

(By E. von S. Dingle.)
(Continued from last week.)

Finches, Sparrows, Grosbeaks, Etc.
60. Purple Finch. A rather rare but regular winter visitant; generally seen, however, in March and April. It is nearly 6 1-2 inches in length; the male is rose red and the female a grayish-brown, sparrow-like bird. This Finch frequents deciduous trees, the buds of which it feeds upon. The male has a very loud, warbling song.
61. House Sparrow or English Sparrow.

62. Goldfinch. Abundant in winter. The male is bright yellow in summer, with black crown, wings and tail; the female is grayish-brown, with black wings and tail. In winter the male resembles the female; as the birds remain until the middle or last of May, the male has acquired his summer plumage before departing. The Goldfinch is found in small flocks and feeds mostly on the ground. Its length is about 5 inches.

63. Pine Siskin. The only record I have for this bird was made on January 15th, 1909, when six specimens were seen. This is an inhabitant of the northern states and Canada; in winter it wanders South, but its appearance here is very irregular. It is about 5 inches in length; its grayish-brown plumage is heavily streaked and there is a yellow patch on the wing and one at the base of the tail.

64. Vesper Sparrow or Bay-winged Sparrow. Length about 6 inches; brownish gray above and white below heavily streaked; a reddish brown patch on the "shoulder." This bird is found in fields in winter, can always be identified when flushed by the white outer tail feathers which flash conspicuously. The Vesper Sparrow remains here from late September to the middle of April, and is entirely silent while in this locality.

65. Savanna Sparrow. Another winter bird, which resembles the preceding, but is smaller and lacks the reddish "shoulder." It has a yellow spot before the eye. In flight there is a marked similarity between the two birds, but the Savanna Sparrow has no white tail feathers.

66. Grasshopper Sparrow. This little bird is a winter visitant; it lives in grassy fields, but is not often seen, on account of its terrestrial habits and timid ways. Its breast is light buff and unstreaked.

67. White-throated Sparrow. This handsome bird is probably our most abundant Sparrow; it is found in this county from October 24th to about May 17th. It is seen in flocks, generally on the edge of woods, often in gardens. The white-throat is nearly 7 inches in length and its color is as follows: upper parts reddish brown, streaked with black and buff; wings and tail grayish brown, the former with two white bars; a yellow spot before the eye; a white line over the

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eye and one through the center of the black crown; a square white patch on the throat; sides of the head and breast bluish gray; under parts white. Immature birds are paler and browner. The white-throat sings on sunny days during the winter.

68. Chipping Sparrow. About 5 1-2 inches in length; top of the head reddish brown; a gray line over the eye and a black one through it; back brown and black; under parts whitish, bill black. The Chippy prefers to nest in scrub oaks and often builds around dwelling houses. Its nest is round and compact, being built of grass and always lined with horse hair. This bird is a permanent resident.

69. Field Sparrow. This bird resembles the Chippy, but can be distinguished from it by its reddish brown bill and redder back; it also lacks the black line through the eye. The Field Sparrow inhabits grass land where there is a scattered growth of bushes. It places its nest on the ground in high grass or under bushes, sometimes in a low bush. It is a permanent resident.

70. Junco or Snowbird. Abundant from October to mid April. Upper parts and breast grayish slate color; under parts white. Tail black, two outer feathers white, bill flesh color; nearly 6 1-2 inches in length.

71. Bachman's Sparrow. A common permanent resident in open pine woods. It places its nest on the ground, and conceals it so skillfully that the only way to discover it is by watching the bird. The nest is arched over like that of the Partridge or Meadowlark. This Sparrow is a plain brownish bird with a buffy, unstreaked breast.

72. Song Sparrow. This Sparrow inhabits ditch banks and thickets near water. Its call note, a sharp chip, is uttered incessantly. It is a very heavily streaked bird, with a large dark patch on either side of the throat and one on the center of the breast; winters, October to April.

73. Fox Sparrow. Largest of the Sparrows. Nearly 7 1-2 inches in length. Bright reddish brown; under parts white with reddish brown

streaks. It is a winter bird, and is not common.

74. Red-eyed Towhee. Also called Joree. A common bird in winter.

75. White-eyed Towhee. Similar to the preceding, but with the eye white; the two birds can be distinguished in life at close range. The White-eyed Towhee is a permanent resident and nests commonly. It builds a bulky nest and places it in jessamine vines or bushes, never higher than five feet up. Three or four white eggs, speckled with red, comprise a set.

76. Cardinal or Redbird. Too familiar to require description.

77. Blue Grosbeak. Smaller than the Cardinal. Deep blue in color, with a reddish brown patch on the wing; female plain grayish brown; bill very heavy like that of the Cardinal. The Grosbeak is a summer resident and nests. It inhabits wet land where there is a scattered growth of bushes.

78. Indigobird. About 5 1-2 inches in length. Male rich blue in color, female grayish brown. It prefers swampy thickets and wet, bush-grown land. It is a summer resident, and breeds.

Tanagers
79. Summer Tanager or Summer Redbird. Length 7 1-2 inches; male entirely rose red in color, female greenish yellow. The Tanager is a bird of the trees; it is common in groves around houses and also in open pine woods where scrub oaks grow. The nest is built of grasses and is so frail that the eggs may often be seen through its walls. It is generally placed in a scrub oak about ten feet up, and the eggs, which number 3 or 4, are greenish blue with brown blotches. The call-note of the Tanager resembles the words "chickytuk."

Swallows
80. Purple Martin. This familiar bird is universally known.

81. Barn Swallow. This bird is known by its deeply forked tail, steel blue upper parts and reddish under parts. It is smaller than the Martin. It occurs here during spring and fall, from late March to late May and from July to September.

82. Rough-winged Swallow. Not as common as the preceding; it is plain brown in color with white under parts; also a transient visitant.

Waxwings
83. Cedarbird or Cedar Waxwing. Large flocks of these birds are found here during the winter and as late as May 17th.

Shrikes
84. Loggerhead Shrike. Abundant permanent resident. This bird preys upon small birds in winter, when other food is scarce. It has the habit of impaling its prey upon thorns or barb wire fences.

Vireos. These are small greenish birds, averaging about 5 1-2 inches in length. They are strictly foliage-haunting, and prefer deciduous trees. Their food consists mostly of insects.

85. Red-eyed Vireo. This bird is plain green above and whitish below; crown gray, a white line over the eye. Its nest, as well as those of all the Vireos, is suspended from the fork of a small limb; it is made of strips of bark, cane leaves, etc., wound with spider web, and is generally placed from five to twenty-five feet up. The Red-eyed Vireo is a summer resident, March to September.

86. Yellow-throated Vireo. Handsome of our Vireos; throat and breast bright yellow. It prefers the tallest trees and places its nest far from the ground. Its song is richer in tone than that of the preceding; summer.

87. Blue-headed Vireo. Head bluish-gray, line from bill to eye and ring, white. This bird is fairly common in winter, and its song can be heard in April before the migration, while with us, the Blue-headed Vireo inhabits thick woods and heavy swamps.

88. White-eyed Vireo. Known by its white eye. It prefers wet thickets, the nest is placed generally from 1 1-2 feet to 5 feet from the ground, and can be distinguished from that of the Red-eyed Vireo by the green lichens on the outside. The White-eyed remains from March to October.

Wood Warblers. All the birds of this family are small; they vary from 4 3-4 inches to 7 1-2 inches in length and, as a rule, are very brightly colored. Most of them are arboreal. Few of them rank high as songsters. They are insect-eating birds and are highly migratory. Twenty-two species occur in Clarendon County and of these, ten have been found to breed.

89. Black and White Warbler. Known by its black and white striped plumage; it climbs around tree trunks after the manner of the woodpecker, but, unlike that bird, does not use its tail as a support. It is found from late March to the middle of May and from early July to late October.

90. Prothonotary Warbler. Head and under parts deep orange, back greenish, wings and tail gray. This is a bird of the deep woods and swamps where there is an abundance of standing water; its nest is placed in a dead tree or in a stump standing in water. This Warbler's song is very loud and sharp, and resembles the words, "tweet, tweet, tweet, tweet." It is a summer resident.

91. Swainson's Warbler. A bird of deep woods where the cane grows in abundance. Its nest is generally placed in canes a few feet from the ground; the eggs are white. This Warbler is plain olive-brown on its upper parts, and whitish on the breast; there is a white line over the eye, and the crown is cinnamon red.

92. Worm-eating Warbler. A rather rare bird, seen only in April and September. It is known by its black and buffy striped crown.

93. Parula Warbler. Very common in summer where there is an abundance of "Spanish" moss; it places its nest only in the bunches of moss, and where this plant does not grow, the Parula Warbler is absent. Its plumage is bluish-gray, with two white wing bars and a green patch in the middle of the back; the throat and breast are yellow; in the center of the latter is a black or brown mark.

94. Cape May Warbler. One record, April 27, 1910.

95. Yellow Warbler. Rare spring visitant. Its color is mostly bright yellow, and the breast is streaked

Don't burn coal yet— use Kerosene

James J. Storrow, Fuel Administrator of Massachusetts during the War and special coal consignee during the present coal shortage, has issued a timely warning against drawing on the meagre coal stocks until absolutely necessary. Mr. Storrow makes the following suggestions, among others:

"Don't burn a pound of coal this month or in October."

"Cook and heat water for your household with a kerosene stove or gas stove. Buy a portable kerosene heater. It is handy. It is cheap. It can be moved easily from room to room. It will save coal and money. It will perhaps keep you out of the coal line next winter."

"Cooking by kerosene stove is cheaper than coal. It is more comfortable during these warm days."

"Kerosene can be bought anywhere. Kerosene stoves and heaters can be bought today at any hardware or probably any house furnishing store or general country store in the state."

The coal shortage is already causing much inconvenience. How much actual suffering and hardship it will cause next winter no one can say. Certainly, the expedient thing to do is to save every bit of coal you now have by cooking and heating with other fuels. Tens of thousands of families are already conserving coal by burning Aladdin Security Oil—the perfect kerosene. If you need a cookstove or heater look at the improved Perfection line.

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96. Black-throated Blue Warbler. Common in spring, but rare in fall. The male is bluish-gray in color; the sides of the head, throat, breast and sides black; rest of the under parts white; a white spot on the wing. The female is plain olive-green, but has also the white wing spot.

97. Myrtle Warbler. Very abundant in winter. Remains as late as May 2nd. It is mostly bluish-gray in color, but has a yellow spot on top of the head, one on the lower back, and one on either side of the breast.

98. Blackpool Warbler. Fairly common in May. As its name indicates, the crown is black; the sides of the head white; upper parts gray and lower parts white, both streaked with black.

99. Yellow-throated Warbler. Common in summer. Like the Parula Warbler, this bird also nests in moss. It is a high ranging bird and prefers the oak trees.

100. Pine Warbler. Abundant throughout the year in pine woods; it is very seldom seen in other than a pine tree. It ranges high and its nest is often placed in a tall pine; in color, the bird is plain green and yellow.

101. Palm Warbler. Common from September to late April. Prefers fields and open land. The top of the head is reddish brown; it has a habit of constantly wagging the tail, which identifies it.

102. Prairie Warbler. Found from April to October, but very rare during June. This little bird prefers tracts of land grown up with scrub oaks. It is olive green above and yellow below; the back is spotted with reddish brown and the sides are streaked with black. There is a black line through the eye and a black crescent below it.

103. Ovenbird. Common in spring and fall; April to May and from August as late as November 15th. This bird

is strictly terrestrial, and is a walker. Its back, wings, and tail are olive green; under parts white, streaked with black; crown pale reddish brown, bordered on each side by black.

104. Water Thrush. This bird and the next are also walkers, and live upon the ground, near streams and ponds. The Water Thrush occurs here in spring and fall. It is uniform olive brown in color, with a pale yellow line over the eye and pale yellow under parts, streaked with black.

105. Louisiana Water Thrush. Similar in color to the preceding, but under parts white. This is a rather rare summer resident; it breeds, for on June 24, 1921, I saw a pair feeding a young bird. It lives on the banks of running streams, and is exceedingly shy.

106. Kentucky Warbler. Common summer resident; I have seen a number of young birds, just out of the nest, and on June 10, 1921 found a nest containing four young. This Warbler places its nest on the ground in wet woods. The color of this bird is as follows: upper parts uniform olive green; crown, region about the eye and sides of throat, black; under parts yellow; line to eye and eye-ring yellow. Its song, which resembles the words, "ter-weet, ter-weet, ter-weet," is so much like that of the Carolina Wren that one is liable to confuse the two birds.

107. Yellowthroat. This bird bears a marked resemblance to the Kentucky Warbler, but the black of the head is confined to the forehead and sides of the head, like a mask. Moreover, there is no yellow around the eye of the adult male. Yellowthroat. This bird may also be distinguished from the Kentucky Warbler by its smaller size, totally different song, and the female having no black about the head. The Yellowthroat is not found in the heavily timbered

swamps, such as the Kentucky Warbler prefers, but likes grassy, wet land, with scattered trees and bushes. This is a summer resident, but occasionally winters.

108. Yellow-breasted Chat. Largest of the Warblers, being about 7 1-2 inches in length. Upper parts olive-green, under parts yellow; white line from bill to and around eye; another on side of throat. The Chat inhabits dense thickets, generally tangles of blackberry. It possesses a variety of calls, and is at all times a very suspicious bird; it is a summer resident and breeds.

109. Hooded Warbler. This beautiful little bird is one of our commonest Warblers, inhabiting wet woods. It ranges very low, and its nest is built in a small bush about 3 or 4 feet from the ground. The male is colored as follows: Forehead and region around the eyes, yellow; rest of the head, neck and throat black; back, wings and tail bright olive-green; under parts yellow. The female has little or no black about the head. This bird generally arrives in late March and remains until September.

110. Redstart. One of the most beautiful of the Warblers; the adult male is black above; the sides are orange red, and there is an orange patch on the wings; the mid-portion of the outer tail feathers are also orange. The under parts are white. In the female, the black of the male is replaced by grayish-olive, and the orange-red by lemon yellow. The Redstart moves rapidly about with wings drooping and tail spread, often darting after winged insects, and when once seen, will not be forgotten. It generally arrives here in late March and is fairly common until the latter part of May. It returns late in July, after an absence of nearly

(Continued on page seven)

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